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CPYRGHT

## Donovan Guarded As Mail on Schools Threatens His Life

By GENE CURRIVAN

A police bodyguard has been assigned to James B. Donovan, president of the Board of Education, as a result of threatening letters he received from integration extremists.

This was acknowledged by Mr. Donovan yesterday when he was pressed to explain the presence of an "aide," who is with him most of the time. Mr. Donovan said the man he had introduced as a board aide was actually a plain-clothes policeman, who was assigned to him 10 days ago.

The board president said he had received many letters threatening his life. He added, however, that of the "thousands of letters" he had received in the present dispute over the board's plans for fuller integration of city schools, the ratio had been "a thousand to one in my favor."

rights groups that conducted rights groups that conducted a boycott of the schools last Monday, were planning another citywide demonstration along the same lines.

Dr. James E. Allen Jr., State Commissioner of Education, who was asked Friday by Mr. Donovan and Dr. Calvin E. Gross, Superintendent of Schools, to lend a hand toward solving the integration problem, said yesterday that he would help.

In a telegram to the two city school officials, Dr. Allen said: "I will, of course, comply with the board request for assistance in achieving your objective of improving education through integration."

"I am considering ways in which this assistance can best be given. It is essential that the effort be a joint one involving all interested in the situation and it will be my aim to set up a procedure which will make the cooperation possible."

He said in a subsequent interview that he planned a series of meetings next week in the city with the interested parties.

### Seeks to Avoid Politics

Dr. Allen said he felt it was essential that the various factions get together "and sit down and work out an agreement." Taking cognizance of recent public reports that integration was becoming a prime political subject, he indicated that he would like to keep politics out of the discussions.

Mr. Donovan appeared unhappy when it became known that he had a bodyguard. He apparently feared that this would prompt further criticism.

Mr. Donovan was reluctant to say anything about his bodyguard except that his name is Sandy Johnson.

"I have had a fair share of crackpot letters in my day," he said, "but some of those I have been getting of late gave me reason for pause."

One of them, he said, ran something like this:

"The only way in which whites like you understand the wrongs perpetrated by you and your ancestors and the compensation due us is when blood runs in the streets. You have my personal assurance that yours will be the first to be spilled."

He said there had been others along that line.

### Recalls Honors by Negroes

Mr. Donovan said he thought most of these letters were directed against him as president of the board rather than as a person. He said that he had been trying for two years to help the Negro and had been honored by Negro groups for his efforts. He also recalled that he had gone to school in Harlem for 10 years and that his late father, Dr. John J. Donovan, was a resident surgeon at Harlem Hospital.

The bodyguard spends most of the day with Mr. Donovan and accompanies him on social occasions. He invariably rides with Mr. Donovan in the board president's chauffeured car, picking him up in the morning and taking him home at night.

A spokesman for the Police Department declined to comment on the assignment of a bodyguard to Mr. Donovan, but said the police would automatically investigate any threatening letters the board president received.

Civil rights groups have scheduled two meetings today.

The Citywide Committee for Integrated Schools of which the Rev. Milton Galamison is chairman, is planning a regrouping of its forces to organize another boycott in the near future. The date of the boycott is to be set at this meeting.

The meeting will be held at 4 P.M. in the Siloam Presbyterian Church, 260 Jefferson Avenue, Brooklyn, of which Mr. Galamison is pastor.

The New York Urban League will meet to propose specific recommendations to the board to correct the "inadequacies" of the present plan for fuller integration, which has been widely rejected by the organized Negroes and Puerto Ricans. Frederick W. Richmond, president of the league, will offer its plan at the Metropolitan Baptist Church, 151 West 128th Street at 10:30 A.M. today.

There will be another session Wednesday with Dr. Allen and Dr. Gross meeting "informally" with various national civil rights leaders. This was arranged by Dr. John H. Fischer, chairman of the Commissioner's Advisory Committee on Human Relations. The scope of these talks has not been defined.

The board's integration plan is designed to correct ethnic imbalances in about 30 of the city's 165 elementary and junior high schools. These schools, which are predominantly Negro and Puerto Rican, would be paired, under the so-called Princeton Plan, with other schools not more than 45 minutes away.

For example, all children in the joint elementary school zones would attend one school for the first three grades and the paired school for the other three grades. The plan also calls for relief of overcrowded conditions and for improved educational facilities. The civil rights groups contend that the plan is grossly inadequate.

Meanwhile, the civil rights groups were accused of having unjustly maligned the teachers of the city by alleging that they are inadequate, have insufficient ability and negative attitudes toward Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

### Teachers Defended

The staff of Junior High School 60 at 420 East 12th Street praised the "dedicated" work of all city teachers and called upon members of the community to cooperate and desist from making "slanderous" charges.

In a separate statement, Henry Oelbaum, a teacher at Junior High School 117, 240 East 109th Street in East Harlem, charged that the so-called bad schools of the city got their reputation, in the most part, from students who refused to conform to ordinary discipline. One of these in a class, he said, can effect the entire class. He placed the blame on parents who failed to teach their children discipline and respect.

To the parents, he said: "You are the one who should teach your child discipline. Do not expect the teacher to be able to do it at the same time he is trying to educate your child in subject matter."

### Chicago Groups Vote Boycott

Special to The New York Times  
CHICAGO, Feb. 8—The Coordinating Council of Community Organizations voted today to stage a citywide school boycott Feb. 25 to protest racial problems in the schools.

If the boycott is held, it will be the second here on racial issues. In a one-day boycott Oct. 22, a total of 224,770 pupils, or 47 per cent of the school enrollment, stayed home.

Albert Raby, leader of the coordinating council, announced the decision for the new boycott after a two-hour meeting between a council committee and Clair M. Roddewig, president of the Chicago School Board. Mr. Raby termed the meeting a "total failure."

The council, which represents 21 civil rights groups, had previously scheduled a boycott for Feb. 25 but had called it off in favor of further negotiations.